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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nestor RODRIGUEZ-AMAYA et al.
Based on : PCT/DE 2004/002356
Title : VALVE BODY WITH MULTICONICAL GEOMETRY AT
THE VALVE SEAT

Docket No. : R.306166
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 17 of this paper.

New Abstract begins on page 20 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 21 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 22 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 22 of this paper.